

# *From Vision to Victory*



*Saint James*

**African Methodist Episcopal Church**

Pastor's Annual Conference Year Report '97 - '98

# *Our Ministry and Witness*

## *Administrative Staff*

William D. Watley, Senior Pastor

J. Clinton Reynolds, Jr., Executive Administrative Minister  
Teresa Lynn Rushdan, Minister of Pastoral Care and Counseling

Raquel Annette St. Clair, Minister of Women and Education

Mashod Evans, Minister to Youth

Darlene Reynolds, St. James Social Services & Child Assault Prevention Program

Connie A Wilson, Office Administrator

Grace Thomas, Office Assistant

Beverly Sigler, Membership & Contributions Clerk

## *Pulpit Staff*

Edward W. Verner, Senior Staff Associate

Matthew L. Watley, Special Assistant to the Pastor

Deborah Blanks

Zora Hall

Ruth Miller

Jean Bonds

Reginald Clark

William K. Collins

Wesley Glenn

Natasha Johnson

Mary Ellen Lake

T.J. Martin, II

Charles Maxell

Deborah Richardson

Ellen Warren

Thomasena Woodward

## *Music Ministry*

Samuel T. Snead, Sr., Minister of Music

T.J. Martin, II, Church Musician

Cynthia Northington, Church Musician

Jimmie Richardson, Percussionist

Latiesha Bailey, Percussionist

John Judson

Phyllis Snead

Jacqueline James

Gwendolyn Moten

Deborah Richardson

Ronald Rice



# Pastor's Message

## From Vision To Victory



"For there is still a vision for the appointed time... If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay (Habakkak 2:3, NRSV). Last year's Pastor's Message of this Annual Report ended with these powerful words from the prophet Habakkak. These words expressed our continuing affirmation of the vision of St. James Preparatory School and our hope that this vision would soon become a reality. We begin this year's report with other verses of scripture that express our thanksgiving and joy: "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain. (I. Corinthians 15:57-58)." During this year we have moved from vision to victory. Construction of St. James Prep has finally started.

After eleven years of prayer, planning, giving, and sacrificing, the construction of St. James Prep has finally started. After several revisions and refinements of the vision, the construction of St. James Prep has finally started. After being close so many times, after frustrating delays and unexpected obstructions, the construction of St. James Prep has finally started. "Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Therefore part of this year's message is a testimony about the goodness of God, the faithfulness of God regarding the prayers of God's people, and the power of God to make ways out of no ways. We are grateful for the faithfulness of the people of St. James who have never lost faith in the vision through these ten years of planning and expectation. We are also grateful for the many friends in the community who are not members of this church who have supported the vision. Some are members of other churches, and some are members of the foundation and corporate community. We also praise God for the educational community — private, parochial, public and higher — which has encouraged and supported us. We praise God for all of our friends who believed even before they saw.

We also praise God for the 426 new souls that joined our church family this year. The interesting aspect of this 426 figure is that it is the exact same number of souls that joined our church in 1996. We praise God for the steady growth of this inner city church which continues to make a bold witness to the reality of a qualitatively different and whole life in the name, through the blood, and under the reign of our Liberator and Lord, Jesus Christ.

"Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

In Gratitude,

A stylized, handwritten signature of William D. Watley in dark ink.

William D. Watley, Ph.D., Senior Pastor

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## *Rev. John Clinton Reynolds Jr.*

### **Executive Administrative Minister**



The Executive Administrative Minister in conjunction with daily duties also serves St. James A.M.E. Church as the Director of Social Outreach. These ministries extend to the broader community by caring for persons in various conditions of need.

The Lord has blessed this ministry to serve ...

- ◆ 28,900 meals (Monday-Friday) at noon.
- ◆ 9 adults and 12 juveniles with over 2,000 hours of community service in cooperation with the Essex County Probation Department the Atlantic Department of Probation and the North Carolina state Department of Corrections.
- ◆ 1,462 persons referred to various social service agencies and food pantries.
- ◆ 2000 families and individuals from the expanded St. James A.M.E. Food Pantry.
- ◆ 388 persons with substance abuse/addiction problems by counseling, referring and transporting them to detox and rehabilitation centers.
- ◆ In co-operation with the Women's Missionary Society collected, acquired and distributed 3000 toys to children in need along with 1000 food packages to families in need at Christmas.
- ◆ In co-operation with the Women's Missionary Society distributed 800 food packages for Thanksgiving.
- ◆ 1900 men, women and children of the community hot meals the third Saturday of each month in 1997.



## *Rev. Teresa Lynn Rushdan*

### **Minister of Pastoral Care**

With a quiet hand and with a gentle touch God has lead, expanded, and reorganized the Department of Pastoral Care into a greater level of commitment, dedication and faithfulness in ministering to the increasing needs of God's people.



By providing a strong emphasis on love, understanding, spiritual guidance and encouragement the Ministry of Pastoral Care continues to be an instrument that promotes congregational renewal, vitality, healing and wholeness.

In 1997 we ...

- ◆ Increased our sick and shut-in visitation by monthly communing 70-80 people in the hospital, nursing homes, and their private residences giving clearer insight into the needs of our sick and elderly members.
- ◆ Established Quarterly Mass Baptism Services.
- ◆ Established Dial-A-Story which provides a great opportunity for children to call in a special number and hear a story filled with biblical principles, Christian ethics and values, performed and read in an animated fashion to stir the creative minds of our children. These stories provide inspiration, entertainment, information and education.
- ◆ Expanded the Prison Ministry to include preaching and teaching at the Essex County Youth House Facility for delinquent teens in Newark, New Jersey.

In addition, the Minister of Pastoral Care is responsible for the arranging of all funerals, wakes, and repasts. Baptism and Baptismal Counseling and other administrative duties which include preaching and teaching.

Vision 1998 is to expand Pastoral Care to include Licensed Clinical Counseling.

*Rev. Raquel Annette St. Clair*

**Minister of Women and Education**



With an emphasis on sound Biblical instruction concerned with practical application and friendly Fellowship, the educational ministries and ministry to women seek to empower Christians for living in times like these.

Guided by the words of Isaiah 43:1,9, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you

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## *Rev. Raquel Annette St. Clair (continued)*

not perceive it?" those involved in the Ministry to Women and the Department of Christian Education opened their eyes and their hearts to see and receive what God was about to do in our midst. We are grateful that in 1997, God has once again done exceedingly greater than we could ever think or imagine.

On August 5, the Women's Ministry Coordinating Committee was established to develop, implement and coordinate programs to meet the needs of women in the congregation.

By November 14-16, we held our first annual Women's Weekend under the theme "Women in Pursuit of Healing." God filled the sanctuary to capacity with worshipping women and the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. We were blessed to have over 300 women present at the all-day Saturday workshop sessions.

The Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study, grew to include 100 women, averaging 70-80 women per week.

The St. James Bible Institute doubled its enrollment during the 1997 Summer Session by offering two courses: Early African Christianity and Basic Theology: What Christians Believe. We look forward to greater growth as we, expand our course offerings, implement certificate programs and seek accreditation.



### *St. James Social Service* **Executive Director Summary**

The Center for Family Life at St. James has regular weekday office hours to provide patient care and health education. Newark Beth Israel Foundation is working with the Center for Family Life to find grant money for support services for elder care, HIV/AIDS, psycho-social support and self help groups.

The center is funded in part by:

\$250,000 - Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (disbursed over three years)

\$100,000 - Newark Beth Israel Foundation (renovation)



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The Newark Child Assault Prevention Project (CAP) provides prevention education to the Newark School District and community. Newark CAP is part of a statewide initiative to inform communities about child abuse prevention and intervention for families in trouble.

The 97/98 grant for Newark CAP is \$46,500 received through the State Department of Health and Human Services. Last year the Newark Project served 6,403 children and 583 school personnel and caregivers.

The St. James AME Afterschool Program staff includes a math teacher, a language arts teacher, four tutors, two van drivers and six volunteers. The Afterschool Program provides service to thirty-five children and their families. This initiative is sponsored in part by a \$36,000 grant from the United Way of Essex and West Hudson. Other revenue of \$15,000 is generated through tuition payments, the entrepreneur component of the program, fundraising, donations from the church and other organizations.

St. James Safe Summer Haven Day Camp staff and parents worked hard to provide the children with one of the best educational programs in the city of Newark. The children enjoyed a very busy summer session with academic mornings, field trips, swimming, skating, bowling, movies, art and music.

The summer camp provided service to 77 campers and their families during the 1997 summer session. The camp was funded in part by a \$25,000 grant award from the Victoria Foundation and tuition raised totaling \$11,832.



# St. James A.M.E Church and Subsidiaries

## 1997 BALANCE SHEETS

	Church	Preparatory School	Federal Credit Union	Social Services	Towers	Total All Corporations
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Current Assets						
Cash	110,425	214,668	47,823	1,334	10,588	384,838
Investment	79,172	406,540	667,503	102,000		1,255,215
Loans			669,212			669,212
Prepaid Expenses			6,226		40,381	46,607
Receivables/Pledges				27,000	136,041	163,041
Allowance for Losses			(9,794)		(48,403)	(58,197)
Total Current Assets	189,597	621,208	1,380,970	130,334	138,607	2,460,716
Other Assets						
Land & Buildings	2,630,872	286,298			6,392,600	9,309,770
Furniture & Fixtures	72,169		38,822		171,762	282,753
Improvements	486,641	375,685	8,289		238,269	1,108,884
Restricted Deposits					770,656	770,656
Transportation	22,594					22,594
Depreciation	(350,000)		(30,540)		(3,033,323)	(3,413,863)
Total Other Assets	2,862,276	661,983	16,571	0	4,539,964	8,080,794
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,051,873</b>	<b>1,283,191</b>	<b>1,397,541</b>	<b>130,334</b>	<b>4,678,571</b>	<b>10,541,510</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Current Liabilities						
Taxes Payable	1,545		1,069	3,561		6,165
Notes Payable			100,000			100,000
Accounts Payable	125,355	19,072	24,870		272,790	442,087
Prepaid Rent					7,104	7,104
Current Mortgage	60,000					60,000
Total Current Liabilities	186,900	162,744	125,929	3,561	279,894	759,028
Long Term Liabilities						
Mortgage Payable	65,000				4,755,832	4,820,832
Parsonage	209,708					209,708
Other Long Term Debt			3,693		313,361	317,054
Total Long Term Liabilities	274,708	0	3,693	0	5,069,193	5,347,594
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>461,608</b>	<b>162,744</b>	<b>129,622</b>	<b>3,561</b>	<b>5,349,087</b>	<b>6,106,622</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Net Income	182,753	160,356	3,742	126,773	(69,191)	404,433
Shares			1,147,230			1,147,230
Reserves			14,699		1,504,988	1,519,687
Retained Earnings			69,106		(1,997,424)	(1,928,318)
Fund Balance	2,407,512	960,091				3,367,603
Total Equity	2,590,265	1,120,447	1,234,777	126,773	(561,627)	4,510,635
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>3,051,873</b>	<b>1,283,191</b>	<b>1,364,399</b>	<b>130,334</b>	<b>4,787,460</b>	<b>10,617,257</b>





*St. James A.M.E. Church  
and Subsidiaries*

1997 INCOME STATEMENTS

	Church	Federal Preparatory School	Credit Union	Social Services	Towers	Total All Corporations
<b>INCOME</b>						
Tithes & Offerings	960,267					960,267
Prep School	114,241					114,241
Special Programs	147,928	160,505	68,144	56,584	1,504,988	1,938,149
Other Income	29,473	12,500		106,000	40,381	188,354
Clubs & Auxiliaries	41,157					41,157
Interest		20,096	28,899			48,995
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,293,066</b>	<b>193,101</b>	<b>97,043</b>	<b>162,584</b>	<b>1,545,369</b>	<b>3,291,163</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
Administrative Expenses					71,909	71,908
Conference	60,985					60,985
Depreciation	52,156		2,204			54,360
Dividends			12,168			12,168
Loans Collections			8,460			8,460
Int. & Bank Charges	65,925		1,063			66,988
Insurance	33,905		4,990		89,658	128,453
Missions/Outreach	127,337					127,337
Oth. Oper. Expenses	74,043	11,951	29,324		184,157	299,475
Payroll, Tax & Ben.	267,583		22,496	15,909	257,558	563,546
Postage	16,884		3,023			19,907
Prep School	111,191					111,191
Prof. Services		20,794			252,497	273,291
Provisions for Losses			4,000			4,000
Repair/Maintenance	57,448				161,230	218,678
Special Events	63,325			19,902		83,227
Supplies	85,302		5,505			90,807
Debt Service			68		247,195	247,263
Utilities	94,229				350,456	444,685
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,110,313</b>	<b>32,745</b>	<b>93,301</b>	<b>35,811</b>	<b>1,614,560</b>	<b>2,886,730</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>182,753</b>	<b>160,356</b>	<b>3,742</b>	<b>126,773</b>	<b>-69,19</b>	<b>404,433</b>



# St. James African Methodist Episcopal Church

## Pastor's Annual Report 1997-1998

Episcopal District	First	Presiding Bishop	Philip R. Cousin
Annual Conference	New Jersey	Presiding Elder District	Newark
Name of Church	St. James AME Church	Pastor's Name	William D. Watley
Address of Church	588 M.L. King Jr. Blvd.	Pastor's Address	3 Merrywood Dr., W. Orange
Conference Opening Date	March ??, 1998	Presiding Elder	Archie Richmond

### Numerical Statistics

1. Conversions	278
2. Accessions	426
3. Baptisms	
A. Adults	55
B. Youth	35
C. Children	40
D. Retirees	1
Total	131
4. Full Members	
A. Adults	1525
B. Youth	400
C. Children	600
D. Retirees	500
Total	3025
5. Registered Voters	2000
6. Widow(er) Children Under 14	-
7. Marriages Performed	14
8. Annual Conference Members	
A. Lay Delegates	1
B. Itinerant Elders/Deacons	7
C. Local Elders/Deacons	2
D. Evangelist/Missionary	120
E. Retired Elders/Deacons	-
F. Licentiates	12
G. Supernumerary	-
Total	142
9. Lay Organizations	1
A. Number of Members	55
10. Church School Ministry	
A. Sunday School	100
B. Teacher/Officers	16
Total	116
11. Enrollment in New Life Ministries	131
12. Enrollment in Bible Studies	175
(General, Men, Women, Youth)	
13. Enrollment in Biblical Training Institute	85



## PROJECTIONS

Reorganize Prayer Initiative

Present first church wide Prayer Conference

Increase membership by 600

Increase tithers by another 35%

Construction of phase I of the St. James Preparatory School and Social Services

Open grades 7 & 8 of the St. James Preparatory School

Complete \$800,000 renovation to the church

Reorganize and solidify church's financial position

Reorganize and expand the church's pastoral care sick visitation ministry

Strengthen and expand the church's Christian education programs, particularly the Bible Institute

Strengthen and expand youth ministries

Strengthen and expand the services and operations of the St. James Federal Credit Union

Reorganize central administration of the church





## *Mission Statement*

As the redeemed people of God called Church, our mission is to proclaim the good news of salvation for the winning of souls to Christ through dynamic worship, planned evangelistic efforts, individual witnessing, education, and social outreach. We believe salvation must include the Lordship of Jesus Christ over our time, talents, tithes, and offerings.

*Prayer, Witnessing, Tithing, Savings*